

# THE BOSTON SUN

PUBLISHED EVERY THURSDAY

SERVING BACK BAY - SOUTH END - FENWAY - KENMORE

## ELLIS PUMPKIN PATCH



Officials of the Ellis Neighborhood Association and organizers of the Pumpkin Patch and Book Drive: Ellis Association Executive Direction Stacy Koepfel, Board member Norma Alekna, VP Meghan Dichiaro, and President Julie Arnheiter. See more photos on Pages 6 and 7.



The pumpkin patch table was busy with young artists hard at work.



PHOTOS BY DEREK KOUYOUMJIAN  
Adam Razaque put some striking colors on his pumpkin.

## BPDA holds meeting on Fenway-Kenmore Transportation Plan

By Dan Murphy

The Boston Planning & Development Agency sponsored a Fenway Community Advisory Committee meeting via Zoom on Tuesday Oct. 25, to discuss the start of the Fenway-Kenmore Transportation Action Plan.

Nick Schmidt, BPDA senior project manager and senior transportation planner, said the Action Plan team includes members of the BPDA, the Boston Transportation Department, the city's Public Works Department, its Disabilities Commission, and the Boston Parks and Recreation

Department, along with the Action Plan Interagency Team, which includes representatives from state agencies, including the MBTA, the Department of Conservation and Recreation, and the Massachusetts Department of Transportation (MassDOT).

While Schmidt said this process is only just beginning, and that no recommendations have been made or analysis completed yet, the Action Plan is "a holistic planning and design initiative that will guide the transforma-

(TRANSPORTATION PLAN Pg. 3)

## 'The New Worlds' exhibition opens to fanfare

Special to Sun

"The New Worlds: Women to Watch" exhibition opened at Gallery Kayafas on Thursday, Oct. 20.

An audience of almost 100

gathered to view artwork by the five nominated artists: Candice Smith Corby, Woomin Kim, Ceci Méndez-Ortiz, Chandra Méndez-Ortiz, and Daniela Rivera,

(THE NEW WORLDS Pg. 4)

## Rep. Livingstone discusses ballot question at Beacon Hill Village members event

By Dan Murphy

Rep. Jay Livingstone was on hand Wednesday, Oct. 12, for a members event sponsored by Beacon Hill Village (BHV) to discuss the four ballot questions that will be posed to Massachusetts voters in the Nov. 8 general election.

Ballot Question #1 proposes an amendment to the Massachusetts constitution that would

impose an additional 4-percent state income tax on any portion of annual taxable income in excess of \$1 million (i.e. if a citizen filed a W-2 with a declared income of \$1.1 million, they'd only pay the 4-percent surcharge on the \$100,000, which is in excess of \$1 million). Revenues derived from this tax would supplement public education, public colleges and universities, and would also be used for the repair

and maintenance of roads, bridges, and public transportation infrastructure. The proposed amendment would apply to tax years beginning on or after Jan. 1, 2023.

Rep. Jay Livingstone said citizens had filed a petition to get this question on the ballot, and it has since advanced at two legislative sessions, since it was expect-

(BALLOT QUESTIONS Pg. 4)



Pictured, left to right, are: Lisa Tung, Woomin Kim, Candice Smith Corby, Ceci Mendez-Ortiz, Chandra Mendez-Ortiz, Arlette Kayafas, and Daniela Rivera.



# EDITORIAL

## THOSE 30 HOUSE DEMOCRATS: DID YOU SEND YOUR LETTER TO PUTIN TOO?

Earlier this week, a group of 30 House Democrats sent a letter to President Joe Biden urging him to seek a diplomatic solution with Russia to end the war in Ukraine.

“In conclusion, we urge you to make vigorous diplomatic efforts in support of a negotiated settlement and ceasefire, engage in direct talks with Russia, explore prospects for a new European security arrangement acceptable to all parties that will allow for a sovereign and independent Ukraine, and, in coordination with our Ukrainian partners, seek a rapid end to the conflict and reiterate this goal as America’s chief priority.”

Really? What planet are they living on?

There has been NO hint from Russian President Vladimir Putin that he is even remotely willing to negotiate an end to the war in Ukraine. To the contrary, he repeatedly has reaffirmed his commitment to “de-Nazify Ukraine,” which is code for eliminating it from the map as a sovereign nation.

He continues to engage in nothing less than the genocide of the Ukrainian people, whether by directly murdering and raping innocent civilians and deporting women and children to Russia, or indirectly through the bombing of civilian housing, hospitals, and infrastructure.

Other world leaders have tried to talk to Putin, most notably presidents Macron of France and Erdogan of Turkey, but all to no avail. If Putin were willing to negotiate an end to the war, why would he be sending an additional 300,000 troops into Ukraine?

The letter from these 30 members of Congress has been applauded by one group in our country who call themselves CODEPINK, whose position on the war in Ukraine is as follows, “As a leading peace and anti-war organization, CODEPINK also asks that all members of Congress, regardless of political party, vote against future weapons and military dollars for Ukraine.”

Essentially, organizations such as these are willing to give carte blanche to Putin to commit further atrocities in Ukraine. Theirs is precisely the sort of thinking that allowed Hitler to engage in his genocide that ultimately resulted in the Holocaust.

Just as it takes two to tango, so too, it takes two to negotiate at the peace table.

Until Putin gives some indication of being willing to end the war that he started, any hint of a lack of solidarity by our members of Congress with the Ukrainian people will serve only to prolong the war and encourage Putin to expand his aggression even more dangerously.

If these 30 Democrats are serious about ending the war in Ukraine (as opposed to just scoring points with random groups like CODEPINK), we assume that they also sent their letter to Putin.

We’ll be eager to hear what he says to them.

## ENJOY A HAPPY — AND SAFE — HALLOWEEN

With the Halloween holiday on Monday, and with many celebrating it over the weekend, we urge all of our readers to take part in the holiday festivities in a safe manner.

Motorists should be extra cautious — by which we mean drive VERY slowly — for the safety of children who will be trick-or-treating in our streets.

Adults also need to be extra careful when “celebrating.” Halloween has become a huge excuse for an adult party night (not that there’s anything wrong with that), but unfortunately, far too many will have too much to drink and then will drive.

We urge all party hosts to ensure that their guests are not inebriated. Parents have to be extra vigilant to make sure that their high school children and friends are not drinking or behaving in a rowdy manner.

We wish all of our readers a happy — and safe — Halloween.



### GUEST OP-ED

## Real trick or treat could be November 8

By Dr. Glenn Mollette

Halloween is coming but the real trick or treat may be November 8, the mid-term election. November 8 may feel more like Halloween this year than the traditional October date.

Who knows what will happen. Georgia, Nevada and Pennsylvania all have Senate races that could tilt the balance of Congressional power depending on who is elected. All three races are going down to the wire. In probably each state it will most likely be the next day before a winner is determined — if not longer.

The 2022 midterm election is shaping up to be one for the history books.

According to a new analysis from pollster Echelon Insights, an estimated 125.6 million Americans are expected to turn out in November’s midterm contests. Such a figure would shatter the record set in 2018’s midterms, which saw 53.4% of the eligible voting-age population cast their ballots, according to the Census Bureau.

Already voters are starting to come out in full force: As of Tuesday, Oct. 18, at least 2.8 million people already cast their ballots in the midterms, according to

the United States Elections Project. That includes the more than 131,000 Georgia voters who cast their ballots early on the first day of early voting on Monday, Oct. 17, handily beating the previous first-day record for a midterm of 72,000, per state election official Gabriel Sterling. (Spectrum News NY)

Issues are driving Americans to the polls. Pewresearch.org found the following to be priority concerns of registered Americans. The numbers with each issue represent a percent of primary concern of those surveyed

Economy. 79, Healthcare 68, Supreme court appointments 64, The coronavirus outbreak 62, Violent crime 59, Foreign policy 57, Gun policy 55, Race and ethnic inequality 52, Immigration 52, Economic inequality 49, Climate change 42, Abortion 40. Of course, you could conduct a poll in your community and the level of interest on any of these issues would probably be in a slightly different order. In almost every scenario the economy and inflation are paramount with voters.

Inflation has knocked on every American’s door and has not been satisfied by a treat. Inflation at the rate of 8.2 percent,

has been one hungry monster that has devoured American paychecks and pushed seniors back into the workforce. Available part time jobs are now being sought by seniors who need the money.

A recent poll shows a dead heat between Sen. Catherine Cortez Masto (D-Nev.) and Republican candidate Adam Laxalt in the Nevada Senate race. In In Pennsylvania, it’s Lt. Governor John Fetterman and R. Mehmet Oz who are now very close. In Georgia the Senate race has Raphael Warnock leading Herschel Walker but the Governor race between Governor Brian Kemp and Stacey Abrams remains close according to a Quinnipiac University Georgia poll.

Save some of your leftover Halloween candy for November 8. Have a bowl of popcorn for a real evening of trick or treat.

*Glenn Mollette is the publisher of Newburgh Press, Liberty Torch and various other publishing imprints; a national columnist — American Issues and Common Sense opinions, analysis, stories and features appear each week in over 500 newspapers, websites and blogs across the United States.*

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# CITY OF BOSTON RELEASES TRAFFIC ADVISORY

Staff Report

Events happening in the City of Boston this week will bring some parking restrictions and street closures. People attending these events are encouraged to walk, bike, or take public transit. Information on Bluebikes,

the regional bike share service, may be found on the Bluebikes website and information on the MBTA may be found online. The MBTA advises riders to purchase a round-trip rather than a one-way ticket for a faster return trip. Walking is also a great way

to move around.

Local event includes:  
Back Bay

**Boston Book Festival-  
Saturday, October 29, 2022**

The Boston Book Festival Event will take place in and around Copley Square. This free

and open-to-the-public event will consist of numerous activities and presentations. The set-up for this event and the event itself will require some parking restrictions on the following streets:

- Boylston Street, Southeast side (Copley Square side), from

Dartmouth Street to opposite #551 Boylston Street - which includes all of the multi-space metered spaces.

- Trinity Place, Southwest side (Copley Plaza Hotel side), from St. James Avenue to the side entrance of the hotel.

## TRANSPORTATION PLAN (from pg. 1)

tion of the Fenway transportation networks through public projects and private development.”

The Action Plan has four major tasks, said Schmidt, including “planning a safe, complete, and connected networks to inform all analysis and design; developing and maintaining a multimodal network model to analyze proposed changes; designing streets and spaces; and engaging the community and stakeholders.”

The BPDA completed the Request for Proposals (RFP) process for the Action Plan on Oct. 13, said Schmidt, and has since hired a consulting team led by Nelson\Nygaard and includes McMahon Associates, Utile, Agency Landscape + Planning, and Rivera Consulting.

As for the timing of the Action Plan’s launch, Schmidt said it’s part of a “coordinated response” to meet the goals of Go Boston 2030, an ambitious plan to transform the city’s streets and transportation system in the next 10 to 15 years, among other objectives.

Additionally, the Action Plan will incorporate new guidelines that will be outlined in the city’s new Curb Use Guidebook, which is still in draft form, said Schmidt.

With this in mind, the Action Plan will look at transforming pavement into new public space in Kenmore Square, on Brookline Avenue, and the intersection of Ipswich and Van Ness streets. “Those are the three major ones we want to address,” added Schmidt.

Meanwhile, the Action Plan is

being developed in tandem with Fenway Rezoning, which will be discussed at a BPDA-sponsored virtual meeting scheduled for Tuesday, Nov. 1, at 6 p.m. (Visit [https://www.zoomgov.com/webinar/register/WN\\_6noASfO1TY-q7V1ET2P86Ow](https://www.zoomgov.com/webinar/register/WN_6noASfO1TY-q7V1ET2P86Ow) to register for the Fenway Rezoning meeting.)

The BPDA expects to hold its first public meeting on the Transportation Action Plan in early 2023, said Schmidt.

“We anticipate the first public meeting this winter,” he said. “We’re aiming to do this as soon as we can, but we know the holidays are coming up.”

City Councilor Kenzie Bok, whose office co-sponsored the Oct. 25 meeting with the BPDA, said, “We need to zoom out and think about the neighborhood. It makes sense to pause as a community and have conversations not led by developers...to talk about how to make the Fenway function.”

Councilor Bok said funding for the Transportation Action Plan came via the developer’s mitigation for the 109 Brookline Ave. project.

Fenway Community CAC member Freddie Veikley pointed out that the Transportation Action Plan doesn’t take into account DCR’s completed study of Agassiz Road and said she “wants to see it elevated to the first batch of priorities.”

CAC member Rich Giordano lamented the timing of the Transportation Plan as “the horse is already out of the barn,” with so many projects in neighborhood now under development and in the pipeline.

In response to Giordano’s concern that the Transportation Action Plan wouldn’t align with the goals of the MBTA and its Better Bus Project, Michael Moran, transit team director for the BTDA, said the Action Plan team would be working closely with the T to ensure that the #55 bus route is preserved, as well as to improve infrastructure at street corners in an effort to facilitate T service.

Moreover, Moran said the Transportation Action Plan would also take into account other transportation providers, such as the MASCO shuttle service to Longwood.

Schmidt added that the Transportation Action Plan would also consider “surge traffic,” which occurs for games and concerts at Fenway Park, as well as for concerts at the new MGM Music Hall at Fenway.

(Moran said the BTDA and other partners are also looking at the possibility of expanding the T’s nighttime transportation service, which would be co-sponsored by Boston and other municipalities, “but nothing is concrete yet.”)

Despite its omission as one of the target areas, Schmidt said Boylston Street would be included in the Transportation Action Plan as well.

“We will incorporate that and other [streets] into the Analysis Area to understand all the traffic coming in on really important corridors into the neighborhood,” said Schmidt, who added that “emergency access (for ambulances into the Longwood Medical Area) will be an import-

ant part of the design.”

CAC member Tim Horn said this latest process “seems like déjà vu all over again,” coming nearly 20 years after the completion of a \$1 million rezoning plan for the Fenway, which has still yet to be implemented.

The current Transportation Action Plan should look at the persistent problem of “gridlock” in the neighborhood, however, said Horn, while “really focusing on where impacts happen.”

Horn inquired where the money to implement the Transportation Action Plan would come from.

Schmidt relied, “We

are trying to come up menu of things, some of those things could be funded and hopefully will be funded by developers... through mitigation.”

While there is no public-comment period for the Action Plan, public comments can still be submitted on it online at the BPDA’s project webpage at <http://www.bostonplans.org/planning/planning-initiatives/fenway-kenmore-planning>, or via email to Michael Sinatra at [michael.a.sinatra@boston.gov](mailto:michael.a.sinatra@boston.gov), or to Cyrus Miceli of the BPDA at [cyrus.miceli@boston.gov](mailto:cyrus.miceli@boston.gov).



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Guests enjoying the opening of “The New Worlds: Women to Watch” exhibition on Thursday, Oct. 20, at Gallery Kayafas.

## THE NEW WORLDS (from pg. 1)

and to hear from gallery owner Arlette Kayafas; Sarah Treco, President of the Massachusetts State Committee of the National Museum of Women in the Arts (MA-NMWA); Grace DeWitt, National and International Outreach Programs Coordinator for the National Museum of Women in the Arts (NMWA); and the exhibition’s nominating curator, Lisa Tung, Artistic and Executive Director of the MassArt Art

Museum (MAAM).

The sold-out audience included Mary Grant and Brenda Molife, the new President and Provost of MassArt; Jessica May, Managing Director of Art and Exhibitions and Artistic Director of deCordova Sculpture Park and Museum; and Kara Elliott-Ortega, Mayor’s Office, Chief of the Office for Arts & Culture, Boston, and past NMWA Women to Watch artists Tia Dale (Heavy

Metal, 2018) and Rebecca Hutchinson (Organic Matters, 2015), among many others.

“It has been an extremely successful show, with multiple works in the exhibition already sold, and at least one artist receiving a commission for new work,” according to Treco.

The exhibition continues until Oct. 29, from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. daily at Gallery Kayafas, 450 Harrison Ave., SOWA

# Back Bay actor, Jack Mullen, stars in Moonbox Productions Tony-winning play, ‘Torch Song’

Special to the Sun

Back Bay actor, Jack Mullen, stars in Moonbox Productions upcoming production of Harvey Fierstein’s Tony-Award-winning play “Torch Song,” directed by Allison Olivia Choat. Torch Song opens December 2nd and runs through December 23rd at the BCA Calderwood Pavilion - Roberts Theater. Tickets are \$65 general admission/\$55 seniors and are available at <https://bit.ly/TorchSng> or by calling 617-933-8600. Pay-What-You-Can tickets are available at the Box Office (Box Office fees may apply).

Hilarious and heart wrenching, ‘Torch Song’ follows Arnold Beckoff on his odyssey to find happiness in New York. All he wants is a husband, a child and a pair of bunny slippers that fit, but a visit from his overbearing mother reminds him that he needs one thing more: respect. Join Arnold on this all-too-human journey about the families we’re born into, the families we choose, and the battles to bring them all home.

The cast of ‘Torch Song’ includes Peter Mill\* (Arnold



Jack Mullen.

Beckoff), Bobbie Steinbach\* (Ma Beckoff), Cristhian Mancinas-Garcia (Ed Reiss), Janis Greim Hudson (Laurel), Jack Manning (Alan), Jack Mullen\* (David), Sam Asa Brownstein (Swing – Alan & David), Anne Sablich (Swing – Ma Beckoff & Laurel).

“We are so thrilled to be able to bring Torch Song back to Boston stages,” said Allison Choat, the play’s director and Associate Artistic Director and Found-

(MULLEN Pg. 5)

## BALLOT QUESTIONS (from pg. 1)

ed to appear on the ballot four years ago. This proposed change to the Massachusetts constitution would “trump” any state statute, he added, which is why it went through the two legislative sessions.

The tax would also apply to capital gains, but it wouldn’t affect corporate taxes, as would be the case with an S Corporation, said Rep. Livingstone. An LLC (Limited Liability Corporation) or an LLP (Limited Liability Partnership) could be potentially impacted by the proposed change, however, he said.

In Massachusetts, around 24,000 of the state’s nearly 7 million residents have incomes of over \$1 million, said Rep. Livingstone, while 70 percent of those have incomes over \$5 million, and 90 percent have incomes over \$2 million.

The expected windfall for the state from the tax ranges from \$1.2 billion to \$3 billion each year, said Rep. Livingstone, while all of the revenue would be ear-

marked for either transportation or education purposes.

“As a legislator, I can tell you those two categories are always in need of more funding,” he said, adding that the revenue estimates range due to the fluctuation of the economy on a year-to-year basis.

One common concern with the proposed tax is how it would impact one-time income gains, like if a citizen sells their home or business, but Rep. Livingstone said this issue would be addressed in the “statutory scheme” and added that “statutes could determine what gets taxed at all.”

Ballot Question #4, which, Rep. Livingstone said, doesn’t appear in the voter’s guide, since it was added late, would keep in place a state law enacted about six months ago and set to go into effect next year that allows Massachusetts residents who can’t provide a Green Card or other proof of U.S. citizenship to obtain a driver’s license.

Rep. Livingstone said about 20 other states and the District of Columbia have enacted similar laws, which have typically resulted in a decline in hit-and-run accidents because it someone can’t get a license, then they subsequently can’t get insurance. “You’re more likely to stick around [after a hit-and-run accident], if you have insurance,” he added.

Ballot Question #2, according to the state’s election website, “would regulate dental insurance rates, including by requiring companies to spend at least 83 percent of premiums on member dental expenses and quality improvements instead of administrative expenses, and by making other changes to dental insurance regulations.”

This question was put on the ballot by dentists, and is opposed by insurers, according to Rep. Livingstone, who added that the research he has seen indicates that its fate “wouldn’t actually make a big impact one way or

another with consumers, but it will help give independent dentists leverage against some of the larger insurance companies.”

Insurance companies argue that if the ballot question passes, it could raise premiums overall, said Rep. Livingstone, while dentists contend that it would mean that more money would be allocated for dental services and also ensure that premiums don’t go up.

Ballot Question #3, according to the state’s election website, “would increase the statewide limits on the combined number of licenses for the sale of alcoholic beverages for off-premises consumption (including licenses for “all alcoholic beverages” and for “wines and malt beverages”) that any one retailer could own or control: from nine to 12 licenses in 2023; to 15 licenses in 2027; and to 18 licenses in 2031.”

The proposed law would also, beginning in 2023, set a maximum number of “all alcoholic beverages” licenses that any one

retailer could own or control at seven unless a retailer currently holds more than seven such licenses.

The maximum number of licenses that any retailer could hold per the proposed law “doesn’t affect the local rules” and “doesn’t change any limits within the municipalities,” however, said Rep. Livingstone, who added that a grocery store in Boston that doesn’t currently sell beer, wine, and liquor, would still need to go through the same regulatory approval process as today to obtain a license if the ballot question passes.

Rep. Livingstone said Cumberland Farms tries to get a question like this on the ballot “every time,” and that “small independent liquor stores in Massachusetts are the ones pushing this question.”

The discussion with Rep. Livingstone was sponsored and arranged by Another Cup - one of the “affinity groups” within Beacon Hill Village.



# 'HOCUS POCUS' MOVIE NIGHT AT UNION PARK

Photos by Derek Kouyoumjian



Union Park made for a perfect "theater" to take in a Halloween movie classic.

It may not be Salem, but the urban oasis of Union Park was a great place to host a movie viewing of the Halloween classic "Hocus Pocus." Movie lovers young and old were welcome for the thrills, chills, and laughs of the antics of the Sanderson Sisters.



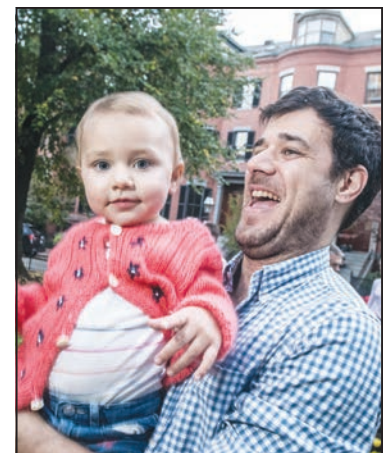
Neighborhorns Aaron Copland and Tim Havern are in a festive mood for the pre-Halloween fun.



Mary Havern with Noah and Jocelyn were ready for the cinematic fun.



President of Union Park Neighborhood Association and Chair of Friends Of Union Park Abigail Cohen with Park Committee member Zita Ephrem organized the event.



Olivia Puente is reassured by her dad's, Ignacio's, confidence that "this is only a movie"!



Trick Or Treat bags were donated by Massachusetts State Senator Nick Collins.



Nick Westrich, Kelsey Marron, and Grace Wellin take in the movie from their stoop reminiscing a recent trip to a drive-in.



Nicole Miglionico and Caitlin McGovern got to unwind while their kids got to socialize.

## MULLEN (from pg. 4)

ing Partner at Moonbox. "It's a beautiful snapshot of an incredibly distinctive time and place – the bustling streets and vibrant 'scene' in late-1970s New York. More importantly, though, it's also a profound and timeless meditation on togetherness, relationships, and chosen families that feels incredibly relevant to the world we navigate today," said Choat.

With each show, Moonbox Productions partners with a local non-profit, to raise awareness for their cause, create connections within their community, and

increase the reach and impact of their work. For the production of Torch Song, Moonbox will be partnering with Greater Boston PFLAG.

Since 1978, Greater Boston PFLAG has been dedicated to supporting the LGBTQ+ community through education and advocacy. They proudly offer support services to family, friends, significant others and allies via 18+ support groups (currently meeting virtually and in person), a helpline, and a one-to-one program. They also provide LGBTQ+ educational

trainings and workshops in a wide range of settings, including schools, places of worship, workplaces, and community spaces. Every day they work to achieve their vision of a world in which LGBTQ+ individuals are safe, supported, included, and equal in their families, in their communities, and in society.

For more information regarding Moonbox Productions upcoming production of Torch Song go to [www.moonboxproductions.org](http://www.moonboxproductions.org).

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# ELLIS NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOC. HOLDS ANNUAL PUMPKIN PATCH AND BOOK DRIVE



Emme Le and Celia Diciara got their bags of trick or treat candy in hand.

Photos by Derek Kouyoumjian

It was beautiful Autumn day to bring the South End community together for a Fall celebration. The Ellis Neighborhood Association held its 2nd Annual Pumpkin Patch and Book Drive. The event offered trick or treat candy bags and activities for the kids as well as complimentary cider and donuts for all. Neighbors were encouraged to bring books to stock the Little Diverse Library maintained by the neighborhood association and to share fabulous stories for all to celebrate.



Pumpkins await young hands and minds to transform them into Halloween art.



Nathan Le is proud to show off his pumpkin patch creation.



Annika Thakarar works feverishly on decorating her pumpkin patch pick.



Cole Joshi works on his pumpkin art.



Shown above, Long time Ellis Association volunteers Lee Martz and Cathy Marotta hi-five for another fun event in their neighborhood.



Shown to the right, Theo Owen reaches into the cauldron of candy for his trick or treat bag.



# ELLIS NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOC. HOLDS ANNUAL PUMPKIN PATCH AND BOOK DRIVE



Judah Thissell reminds his child Selah that “pumpkin spice drinks are inferior to cider”.



Pumpkins decorate tree placement on Tremont Street leaving no doubt what season is being celebrated.



Violet, Kristen, Mario, and Kathy Johnson reflect on the Halloween-themed fun they’ve just experienced.



Tom Weisend with 11-week-old Charlotte came by to watch the Halloween-themed fun.



Izabella Walsh contemplates carefully on how many M&Ms are in that jar before she enters her guess.



The Little Diverse Library, located at the corner of Clarendon and Tremont Streets, is stocked with books for young readers that celebrate diversity.



Charlie with grandchild Luma Arpe have pumpkin and candy in hand.



Tatianne and Zeen Elhafed.



The Little Diverse Library, located at the corner of Clarendon and Tremont Streets, was built by Tony Owens, the father of VP Association and Chair for Community outreach Meghan Dichiaro. McKinley School students were commissioned to design the exterior and it is maintained by the Ellis Neighborhood Association.

ADVERTISE IN THE BOSTON SUN. PLEASE CALL 781-485-0588



# FOPG HOLDS CAMPAIGN CELEBRATION AND MEMBERS RECEPTION AT UMASS CLUB

The Friends of the Public Garden held a special Campaign Celebration & Members Reception on Oct. 12 at the UMass Club.



Liz Vizza, Friends President; Ryan Woods, Commissioner, Boston Parks and Recreation Department; and Leslie Adam, Friends Board Chair.



Guests enjoying the event.



PHOTOS COURTESY OF THE FRIENDS OF THE PUBLIC GARDEN  
Liz Vizza, President, Friends of the Public Garden; Erica Mattison, FOPG Member; and Anne Swanson, Friends Board Member .



Enjoying the view at the UMass Club



Ryan Woods, Commissioner, Boston Parks and Recreation Department gives his remarks.

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## FOPG to illuminate two more statues on Comm. Ave. Mall

The statues of Alexander Hamilton and John Glover, located between Arlington and Berkeley streets, and between Berkeley and Clarendon streets, respectively, will be the next statues on the Commonwealth Avenue Mall to be illuminated through the efforts of the Friends of the Public Garden.

“These projects involve permanent lighting, as well as restored walkways, landscaping, and stonework around the statues,” Susan Abell, Director of Communications and Outreach for the Friends group, wrote in email. “The lighting will dramatically enhance these sculptures and create a more-inviting and safe park after dark.”

Both the statue of Samuel Eliot Morison, located on the Mall between Exeter and Fairfield streets, and the statue of Patrick Andrew Collins, located on the Mall between Clarendon and Dartmouth streets, have already been illuminated via this \$1.9 million initiative by the Friends group.



The statue of John Glover located between Berkeley and Clarendon streets on the Commonwealth Avenue Mall.



The statue of Alexander Hamilton located between Berkeley and Clarendon streets on the Commonwealth Avenue Mall.



## NEWS IN BRIEF

REP. LIVINGSTONE'S  
UPCOMING OFFICE  
HOURS

Rep. Jay Livingstone will hold office hours on Wednesday, Nov. 16, from 9-10 a.m. at Newsfeed Cafe inside the Copley Branch of the Boston Public Library at 700 Boylston St.

"I am looking forward to

being in the community with you to update you on the work I've been doing throughout the district and in the State House, and to hear your feedback, ideas, and suggestions on both local neighborhood issues and statewide policy priorities," wrote Rep. Livingstone.

Email Cassidy.Trabilcy@mahouse.gov with any questions

or concerns.

WOMEN'S LUNCH  
PLACE FUNDRAISER  
SET FOR NOV. 17

The Neighborhood Association of the Back Bay is teaming with the Women's Lunch Place (WLP), a women's day shelter on Newbury Street, to present

their second Harvest Festival on Thursday, Nov. 17, from 6 to 9 p.m. at the Women's Lunch Place at 67 Newbury St.

This year's joint benefit will feature music, a silent auction, a cocktail reception, and dinner, with proceeds going to support NABB's civic work on homelessness, affordable housing, safety, and other civic issues, as well as

WLP's services for homeless and at-risk women.

Individual tickets are \$125, and sponsorships begin at \$2,000.

Visit <https://womenslunch-place.org/nabb> for more details, including sponsorships, suggested auction items to donate, and to purchase tickets.

## Wu announces new environmental standards for Boston

Staff Report

Mayor Michelle Wu announced a new policy to require that certain City projects include environmental benefits and stormwater mitigation through the use of green infrastructure. The policy establishes five new standard designs and the necessary accompanying maintenance resources to expand the implementation of small-scale green infrastructure installations in Boston. In dense urban areas where space in public sidewalks and roadways (referred to as the right-of-way) is limited, small-scale green infrastructure (GI) can be effective in reducing stormwater flooding, promoting groundwater recharge, and filtering pollutants from runoff. Additionally, green infrastructure has numerous co-benefits, including increasing urban tree canopy, mitigating urban heat island effect, and enhancing ecological diversity.

"Today we are announcing Boston's first ever green infrastructure policy and in doing so setting a new standard for safer, more sustainable roadway infrastructure throughout the city," said Mayor Michelle Wu. "Together these elements will improve community safety, foster community engagement, and boost our climate resilience."

This new policy will apply to curb extensions, also known as neckdowns, bulb-outs, or bumpouts. Curb extensions improve safety at crosswalks by reducing the distance to cross from one side of the street to the other and preventing vehicles from parking too close to crosswalks, making pedestrians more visible to drivers. Curb extensions can also be used to ensure that crosswalks are accessible for people with limited mobility or in wheelchairs. Due to Boston's compact nature, curb extension projects often result in

the creation of small spaces not suited for other uses. Historically, these spaces have been paved with impervious materials.

"These new design standards will allow the City to continue enhancing our streets as public spaces for everyone," said Chief of Streets Jascha Franklin-Hodge. "These curb extensions help keep our neighborhood safe by slowing cars and making street crossing easier for pedestrians and now they can also benefit our quality of life by providing more green space in our City."

"Integrating green infrastructure into the City's projects as a standard will help us reduce stormwater flooding, create new green space and provide more shade in all of our neighborhoods," said Kate England, Director of Green Infrastructure. "We are also excited to introduce a volunteer program that will foster stewardship by creating opportunities for neighbors to come together and take care of these new features."

"Innovative green infrastructure policies offer an additional pathway to adapt to the impacts of climate change, such as stormwater flooding and sea level rise, while making our communities more resilient," said Reverend Mariama White-Hammond, Chief of Environment, Energy and Open Space. "I am excited to support these new design measures that will bring us closer to our collective goal of being a Green New Deal city."

The purpose of this policy is to aid the City in implementing preferred GI alternatives to current design practices and ensure adequate maintenance so that GI can be integrated as standard practice into large-scale capital projects in the future. The five design alternatives are as follows:

1 Right-of-way (ROW) Bioretention: Curb extensions

may incorporate green infrastructure in the form of Rain Gardens, Bioswales, etc.

2 Infiltration Tree Pit/Tree Trench: Curb extensions may incorporate green infrastructure in the form of Infiltration Tree Pits or Infiltration Tree Trenches.

3 Porous Paving: Curb extensions may incorporate Porous Asphalt, Permeable Pavers, Porous Paver Installations, and Porous Concrete Slabs.

4 Subsurface Infiltration Area: Curb extensions may incorporate Stone Subsurface Infiltration Areas (with or without perforated pipe).

5 One-time Seeding: The area within the curb extension may be seeded once with a groundcover, low-grow fescue or wildflower mix.

Additionally, to help support the longevity of green infrastructure, two GI-specific maintenance contracts will be available for

maintenance on new and existing public GI installations. The first is a contract for maintenance on porous paving installations. The second is a contract for landscape maintenance on "green" infrastructure features. These two contracts will provide much needed regular maintenance, including regenerative air vacuum sweeping for porous paving, as well as vegetation maintenance, replacement, and pruning for GI features in the right-of-way. They will also provide the flexibility required to perform maintenance as needed or requested by residents through the City's 311 system.

The policy will also establish a volunteer program to assist in the maintenance of select GI sites. Prospective volunteers will be able to sign up through an online portal to "adopt" a GI feature. This program will allow volunteers to aid in litter removal and/or season-

al cleanups for GI features where they live, work, and play.

This infrastructure will complement the City's network of nearly 36,000 catch basins connected to roughly 600 miles of pipes beneath our streets, which is maintained by the Boston Water & Sewer Commission.

Today's announcement builds on the Wu administration's commitment to creating resilient communities while adapting to the impacts of climate change. Green infrastructure is a key component of the recently released Urban Forest Plan, which includes strategies to bolster the City of Boston's tree canopy while enhancing the livability and public health of Boston's neighborhoods. Curb extensions will be a common tool in implementing the Mayor's vision for safer streets, announced in September.



## Virtual Public Meeting

## 409 Huntington Avenue

Wednesday, November 16

6:00 PM - 8:00 PM

Zoom Link: [bit.ly/3VHsgbT](https://bit.ly/3VHsgbT)

Toll Free: (833) 568 - 8864

Meeting ID: 160 332 1992

## Project Proponent:

409 Huntington LLC and Tremont Asset Management LLC

## Project Description:

Proposal to redevelop an existing five-story, apartment building into a nineteen-story mixed use residential building comprising up to 157 dwelling units, up to 2,300 square feet of street-level activated retail space along Huntington Avenue, and improvements to the currently underdeveloped pocket park at the corner of the site along Huntington Avenue.

mail to: Michael Sinatra

Boston Planning & Development Agency  
One City Hall Square, 9th Floor  
Boston, MA 02201

phone: 617.918.4224

email: [michael.a.sinatra@boston.gov](mailto:michael.a.sinatra@boston.gov)

Close of Comment Period:  
12/2/2022

[BostonPlans.org](https://BostonPlans.org) | [@BostonPlans](https://twitter.com/BostonPlans)

Teresa Polhemus, Executive Director/Secretary

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# The Newbury Boston launches new fireplace program in hotel's luxury suites

The Newbury Boston, managed by Highgate, located at One Newbury Street in the city's Back Bay neighborhood, welcomes the crisp fall season with a luxurious collection of 42 wood burning fireplace suites, perfect for a romantic New England getaway or a cozy family vacation.

Each Fireplace Suite invites guests to indulge in luxury with a plush king bed, wood-burning fireplace, separate living and sleeping areas, marble bathroom with a walk-in rainforest shower, and the complimentary services of a Fireplace Butler. Guests may choose from a thoughtfully selected menu of wood varietals including quick burning and warming Birch, long burning and fragrant Cherry, lightly scented Oak, and the sweet quintessentially New England, Maple. Once wood selections are made, the hotel's Fireplace Butler will expertly lay the fire and set the perfect ambiance, preparing guests for a cozy night in or warming them up after a day of exploring.

To complement the experience, the hotel has created a special menu of sweet and savory bites, as well as cozy cocktails to be enjoyed fireside. Guests



One of the 42 luxury suites outfitted with a wood burning fireplace at the Newbury Boston.

can warm their palette with a Grilled Cheese & Tomato Bisque Soup or treat their sweet tooth with S'mores or a rich Molten Chocolate Cake. These bites can be paired with an array of wine and seasonal cocktails. Selections include: the Campfire, a smoky cocktail featuring Don Julio Reposado, Montelobos Mezcal, toasted marshmallow syrup and chocolate mole bitters garnished with tableside torched marshmallow; a house bottled New England Old Fashioned featuring Maker's Mark infused with local

apples, Vermont maple syrup and Angostura bitters; or Spiked Drinking Chocolate made with LA Burdick chocolate, Appleton Estate Rum and Giffard Crème de Cacao (non-alcoholic hot cocoa is also available).

In addition to the fireplace suites, the hotel offers a number of additional cozy fireside spots. The Street Bar offers classic cocktails and New England inspired culinary offerings curated by Major Food Group. The bar transports guests back to the 1920s with classic leather barstools, a crackling fireplace, and dark wood accents to create a speakeasy ambiance. Hotel guests also enjoy exclusive use of The Library, which also houses a fireplace that was rediscovered during the hotel's renovation. Relax in the library with a cup of coffee or cocktail and settle in with a book from hotel's collec-

tion curated by the Boston Public Library and Trident Booksellers.

To book a Fireplace Suite or learn more about The Street Bar or The Library, please visit [thenewburyboston.com](http://thenewburyboston.com).

Located in Back Bay, Boston's premier shopping and dining destination, and directly across from The Public Garden, The Newbury Boston opened in 1927 as one of the first Ritz Carlton hotels in the United States. Leveraging three world-renowned designers, Highgate meticulously transformed the building into a 286-room luxury hotel, complete with signature dining experiences, 16,000 square feet of stunning event space, and a reimagined entrance plaza on Newbury Street. The Newbury Boston's impressive food and beverage offerings are curated by Major Food Group and include Contessa, the dramatic rooftop restau-

rant; The Street Bar, a cherished local destination; and an exclusive guest lounge, The Library. Impeccably curated guest experiences extend to 24-hour in-room personal dining and special events, weddings, and meetings. The Newbury Boston is managed by Highgate.

Highgate is a leading real estate investment and hospitality management company widely recognized as an innovator in the industry. Highgate is the dominant player in major U.S. gateway cities including New York, Boston, Miami, San Francisco and Honolulu, with a growing footprint in Europe, the Caribbean and Latin America. The hospitality forward company provides expert guidance through all stages of the property cycle, from planning and development through recapitalization or disposition. Highgate has a proven record of developing its diverse portfolio of bespoke lifestyle hotel brands, legacy brands, and independent hotels and resorts with contemporary programming and digital acumen. The company utilizes industry-leading revenue management tools that efficiently identify and predict evolving market dynamics to drive outperformance and maximize asset value. With an executive team consisting of some of the most experienced hotel management leaders, the company is a trusted partner for top ownership groups and major hotel brands. Highgate maintains corporate offices in New York, Dallas, Los Angeles, Miami, Seattle, Waikiki and London. [www.highgate.com](http://www.highgate.com).

## As Halloween creeps closer, NFPA urges public to keep fire safety in mind

Halloween is a boo-tiful time of year, full of spooky celebrations and activities, but it also presents some real and scary fire safety hazards. As the holiday nears, the National Fire Protection Association® (NFPA®) is encouraging everyone to take simple precautions that can help ensure the holiday remains festively fun.

"As more people plan to celebrate the holiday this year, whether it be trick-or-treating or

costume parties, we want everyone to know where potential fire risks exist so they can take the steps needed to minimize them," said Lorraine Carli, vice president of Outreach and Advocacy at NFPA.

According to NFPA, an annual average of 770 home structure fires began with decorations between 2014 and 2019, resulting in one civilian fire death, 26 civil-

(FIRE SAFETY Pg. 11)

## DUDAMEL IN THE HOUSE!



PHOTO COURTESY OF THE CASTLE GROUP

Oct. 23 turned out to be an amazing Sunday for 35 young musicians at New England Conservatory's Burnes Hall who had the opportunity to meet Los Angeles Philharmonic Music and Artistic Director Gustavo Dudamel, prior to a rare performance by the maestro and LA Phil at Symphony Hall. Musicians from the BEAM (Boston Bridge to Equity and Achievement in Music) program, along with students from Boston String Academy, Boston Youth Symphony Orchestras, Project STEP, and Berkshires-based Kids 4 Harmony, had the opportunity to perform Gabriela Bacewicz's "Polish Caprice" and the third movement of Shostakovich's "String Quartet No. 3" for Maestro Dudamel, who coached the ensembles and provided artistic feedback and encouragement. The gathering was organized in part by BEAM Program Director Rodrigo Guerrero who has known Dudamel since they were both involved in Venezuela's "El Sistema" music education program.

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## Real Estate Transfers

BUYER 1	SELLER 1	ADDRESS	PRICE
<b>BACK BAY</b>			
Maude, Michael J	Cho, Chae K	160 Commonwealth Ave #210	\$570,000
286 Comm Avenue Unit 3 RT	Strittmatter, William D	286 Commonwealth Ave #3	\$2,200,000
Gummadi, Ram	Ferguson, Sandra	386 Commonwealth Ave #22	\$499,000
<b>BEACON HILL</b>			
Oleksiak, Wendy	Faucher FT	33 Hancock St #1	\$1,519,234
Daggenhurst, Richard	Bpg Mount Vernon LLC	63 Mount Vernon St #5	\$3,200,000
Essex Property Group LLC	Joan E Smith FT	145 Pinckney St #329	\$510,000
Krajieski, April K	SDPD 22 River Street RT	22 River St #1	\$640,000
Pedersen, Magdalene K	Stacie F Perry T	12 Walnut St #3	\$1,550,000
<b>BAY VILLAGE/SOUTH END/KENMORE</b>			
Anne L Donahue 2005 RET	Jen, Eva	7 Warren Ave #8	\$1,090,000
Laplume, Joseph	LM Pierce LLC	188 Brookline Ave #PH29C	\$3,200,000
Gregory, Yukiji J	546 Columbus Avenue RT	546 Columbus Ave #2	\$3,600,000
Lipson, Jane E	Milner, Scott	7 Concord Sq #2	\$587,500
Swenton, Diane B	Odonoghue, Kenneth	108 E Brookline St #2	\$600,000
Mickelson, Elijah G	Chong, Lianna	3531 Washington St #227	\$354,405
Carroll, J	Hanrahan, Kristen L	3531 Washington St #323	\$310,689
Lim, Juhyun	Maciolek Richard D Est	28-32 Atlantic Ave #623	\$1,100,000
Spellman, Kent R	Al-Saud, Saud	1 Avery St #21B	\$2,700,000
Tesler, Maile	Chang, Lewis C	88 Kingston St #4A	\$1,082,000
Thach, Lee	Dossev, Boyko	151 Tremont St #27K	\$710,000
<b>WATERFRONT/DOWNTOWN</b>			
Sadoway, Donald R	Farquhar, Ronald	2 Battery Wharf #2408	\$2,500,000
Kim, Andrew	Punjabi, Tony T	1 Franklin St #4005	\$2,540,000

## FIRE SAFETY (from pg. 10)

ian fire injuries and \$13 million in direct property damage. More than two of every five (44 percent) of these fires occurred because the decorations were too close to a heat source, such as a candle or hot equipment.

NFPA offers these tips and guidelines for enjoying a fire-safe Halloween:

- Decorations: Many common decorations like cornstalks, crepe paper, and dried flowers are very flammable. Keep these and similar decorations far away from any open flames or heat sources, like candles, heaters, and light bulbs.

- Candles: Using candles as decoration can be risky if not done correctly. Keep them in a well-attended area out of the

path of potential trick-or-treaters. Remind children of the dangers of open flames, and make sure they are always supervised when candles are lit. Extinguish candles before leaving an area.

- Jack-o-lanterns: Glow sticks or electric candles are the safest choice when it comes to lighting up your jack-o-lantern, but if you choose to use a real candle, do so with extreme caution. Light a candle inside a jack-o-lantern using long fireplace matches or a utility lighter and keep it away from other decorations.

- Costumes: Avoid fabric that billows or trails behind you, as these can easily ignite. If you are making your own costume, avoid loosely woven fabrics like linen and cotton, which can be

very flammable.

- Visibility: Give children flashlights or glowsticks for lighting, these can even be incorporated into the costume. If your child has a mask, ensure the eye holes are large enough for them to see clearly.

- Smoke Alarms: This is a great time to make sure your smoke alarms are functional and up to date.

- Exits: Exits are NOT an appropriate place for decorations. When decorating, ensure that nothing is blocking any escape routes.

“With a little added awareness and planning, people can enjoy a fun-filled Halloween and stay fire-safe in the process,” said Carli.

## LEGAL NOTICES

### LEGAL NOTICE

Notice of Self Storage Sale  
Please take notice  
Prime Storage - Boston  
Southampton St. located  
at 100 Southampton St.,  
Boston, MA 02118 intends  
to hold an auction to  
sell the goods stored by  
the following tenants  
at the storage facility.  
The sale will occur as an  
online auction via www.  
storagetreasures.com on  
11/9/2022 at 12:00 PM.

Unless stated otherwise the  
description of the contents  
are household goods  
and furnishings. Joseph  
Stowers unit #1062; Nicole  
Farrell unit #3033; Rosean  
Brown unit #3133; Tomeka  
White unit #4049. All  
property is being stored  
at the above self-storage  
facility. This sale may be  
withdrawn at any time  
without notice. Certain  
terms and conditions  
apply. See manager for

details.

10/20/22, 10/27/22  
BS

### LEGAL NOTICE

Notice of Self Storage Sale  
Please take notice Prime  
Storage - Boston Traveler  
St. located at 33 Traveler  
St., Boston, MA 02118  
intends to hold an auction  
to sell the goods stored

by the following tenants  
at the storage facility.

The sale will occur as an  
online auction via www.  
storagetreasures.com on  
11/9/2022 at 12:00 PM.  
Unless stated otherwise the  
description of the contents  
are household goods and  
furnishings. Michael Griffin  
unit #210; Anastasia Solus  
unit #212; James Weare

unit #322; Swaminathan  
Srinivasan unit #832. All  
property is being stored  
at the above self-storage  
facility. This sale may be  
withdrawn at any time  
without notice. Certain  
terms and conditions  
apply. See manager for  
details.

10/20/22, 10/27/22  
BS

## ATTENTION TO DETAIL

BY PENNY CHERUBINO

### THIS WEEK'S ANSWER

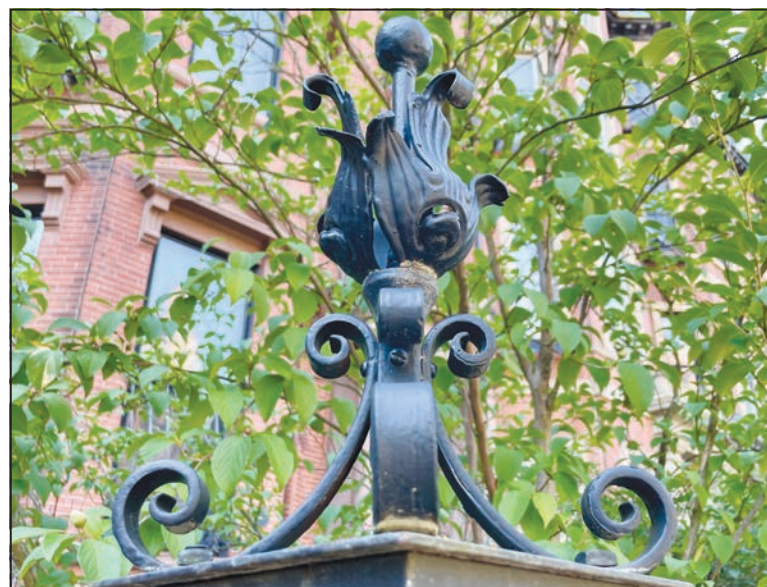


The bay window in the last clue is on 77 East Berkeley Street. Today's answer is from a City Archives photo circa 1950/1960. The East Berkeley Neighborhood Association notes that in the 1950s, “As part of the South End Urban Renewal Project, Dover Street was renamed East Berkeley Street.”

The next clue will be found in the Back Bay.

Do you have a favorite building or detail you would like featured? Send an email to Penny@BostonZest.com with your suggestion.

### THIS WEEK'S CLUE





**\*PROPERTY SPOTLIGHT\***

**298 MARLBOROUGH STREET, UNIT FOUR**

2 BEDROOMS | 2 FULL BATHROOMS | 1,502 SQUARE FEET

*LISTED AT \$1,600,000*

**PRICE DROPS!**



**\*PROPERTY SPOTLIGHT\***

**15 GLOUCESTER STREET, UNIT FOUR**

2 BEDROOMS | 1 FULL 1 HALF BATHROOMS | 1,103 SQUARE FEET

*LISTED AT \$1,299,000*



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